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THE WASHINGTON CRITIC.

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RICHARD H. SYLVESTER, - Editor.

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 5, 1886.

KNIGHT AND ANARCHIST.

The speech of Master Workman

Powderly before the General Assembly

of the Knights of Labor at Richmond

yesterday was in no sense an argument

effort, but it was a clear and candid

presentation of the general principles

of the order, as constituting an organized

protest against the encroachments

of incorporated wealth upon the rights

of the toiling masses. If we were to

take exception to any of the Master

Workman's positions it would be to the

statement that anarchism is the legiti-

mate child of monopoly, rather than of

foreign idiosyncrasy.

The monopolists, it is true, are re-

sponsible, in various ways, for many

of the burdens that the people have

to bear and have forced the Knights

of Labor, into open revolt

against their high handed domination.

It is also responsible, in great measure,

for the tramp, but Anarchy is an im-

ported institution, born in an atmo-

sphere of despotism and representing

crude ideas of liberty and property,

as much at war with the interests of

Mr. Powderly as with those of Jay Gould.

The Anarchists who have made

themselves most conspicuous and given

the most trouble in this country, did

not imbibe their peculiar ideas of gov-

ernment and social order from a study

of American institutions nor from a

hatred of American autocrats, their

ideas, like themselves, are exotic.

Neither are they, as a rule, the class

of workmen, such of them as do

work, with whom the Knights of

Labor have close, sympathetic rela-

tions.

The Knights contend for certain

great principles in the name and under

the protection of law; the Anarchists

would overturn all law, if necessary,

in order to appropriate and absorb the

fruit of labor, the monopolist is he

who misuses the power of consolidated

wealth to the oppression and degrada-

tion of the poor. To the Anarchist,

every man who owns property above

his immediate wants, no matter how

honestly earned, is a monopolist who

should be compelled to make partition

of his accumulations with those who

own nothing.

Communism is capable of some regu-

lation by law, but anarchism is com-

munist and lawless both. It is not

American, Mr. Powderly, it is not the

offspring of American monopoly. The

Vanderbilts and Astors and Goulds

are no more responsible for its existence

or outcroppings than they are for the

Caribonari of Italy, the Nihilists of

Russia or the Mormonism of Utah.

Russia is doing in the Bulgarian

matter just what she set out to do.

At her demand all but seven of the

persons who were arrested for engaging

in the movement which led to the over-

throw of Prince Alexander have been

released; and again, Russia's repre-

sentative at Sofia, who has gone on a

political tour of Bulgaria, has an-

nounced that his country will not con-

sider the proposed early elections to the

Bulgarian National Assembly legal.

Still further, Austria, which country

was to call a halt on Russia, and really

did make a faint effort to do so, has

been informed by the Bismarck-Alexander

alliance that consent will not be given

to a conference to settle the Bulgarian

question. As we said some days ago,

the hand of Russia is the upper hand

in Europe, which fact that always

astute statesman and diplomat, Bis-

marck, recognizes, and consequently

arrays himself alongside of the Czar.

PRESIDENT THOMPSON of the Chase

National Bank of New York is so

much delighted with the new issue of

the silver circulating notes that he

wants everybody to know it, and is

mailing expressions of his satisfaction

all over the country. The certificates,

he says, are destined to become as

popular and as universally current as

greenbacks. Why? Because "their is-

sue more than neutralizes the effect

of the surrender of National bank

notes; takes from the Treasury its

ownership of some ninety millions of

silver dollars and substitutes an equal

amount of gold and greenbacks, thus

warding off any danger of dropping

from the gold to the silver standard;

enables the Treasury to call in all their

percent bonds without the risk of

paying to offer silver dollars in pay-

ment; will work a gradual and de-

sirable expansion, and obliterates the

necessity of handling any metallic cur-

rency except small change."

The day is bright, and fine, new storm.

Like lightning, it has come, and the corn.

The mowers come and go; the sun is

blue eyes and the golden light of gold.

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